

Atlanta Ham

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

JANUARY 2005

Peter I Update -- Counting the days..

The Peter I DXpedition team members are counting down the final days until their departure from home and their rendezvous with other team members in Punta Arenas, Chile. The 40 ft. sea container was loaded with the help of members of the SEDXC and is now just a few days away from arrival in Valparaiso, Chile. Upon clearing Chilean customs, the container will be trucked the 1,500 miles to the port in Punta Arenas. The team will begin arriving Jan. 11th for a scheduled departure on Jan. 14th.

**Bob Allphin - K4UEE and
Ralph Fedor - KØIR
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
www.peterone.com**

The Expedition website (www.peterone.com) has been expanded and now includes pages with basic information for the non-

ham viewer. Information such as "What is a Dxpediton?", "Prior Dxpeditons to Peter I", "Tell me about Peter I Island", and so forth -- the idea is to help inform and interest others outside the ham community in our hobby and adventure.

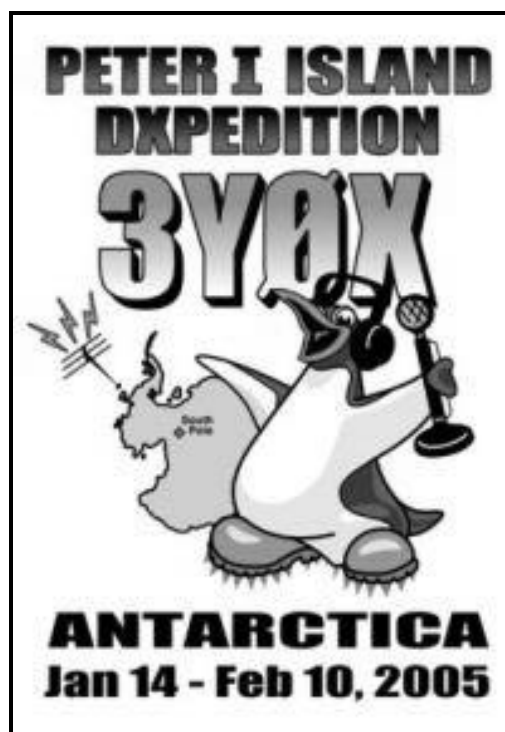
All the members of the team ask you to assist them in this regard: Talk to your local school, Boy or Girl scout troop, Kiwanis Club, Rotary, the local press and so forth about the Peter I website. Encourage them to follow along as the DXpedition unfolds - to the most isolated island on Earth.

The website can be found at: www.peterone.com.

Iridium Satellite has graciously agreed to be a sponsor of the Peter I DXpedition and has provided equipment that will allow the team to stay in touch with home, provide daily uploads of log information and daily updates from the

team including pictures of interest. Also, the worldwide pilots (through our chief pilot, Don, N1DG) will have the ability to relay feedback from you about missed or unusual band openings, suggestions, and other timely information to help us get you in the log.

This is a huge undertaking and very, very expensive. The



(Continued on page 6)

Tech Fest Jan 22, 2005! Get the Crock Pot Ready!

Look up that recipe for the best chili in town.

It's time for the GARS Tech Fest and Chili Cook-off!

Mark you calendar: Saturday January 22th, 2005 at the St Marguerite D'Youville Church, 85 Gloster Rd NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville (directions)

The idea of Tech Fest was first tested 7 years ago when Kevin Berry, KF4RMA expressed interest in an event who's primary function was to expose members of the community to the many facets of Amateur Radio. Unlike Field day, this is not a contest or race. It is a chance to experience parts of our hobby that we might never have

(Continued on page 8)

THE ATLANTA HAM

The Atlanta HAM is the official bulletin of The Atlanta Radio Club serving its members and the Atlanta community. Original articles, art, and photos are welcome. Copyrighted material cannot be printed without permission from the appropriate legal authority. Please include such disclaimers in all materials submitted.

Submit articles:

Atlanta Radio Club
Attn: HAM EDITOR
PO BOX 720398
Atlanta, Georgia 30358

Contact the editor for available formats to transfer material.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH!

The **Atlanta HAM** is created using Microsoft Publisher

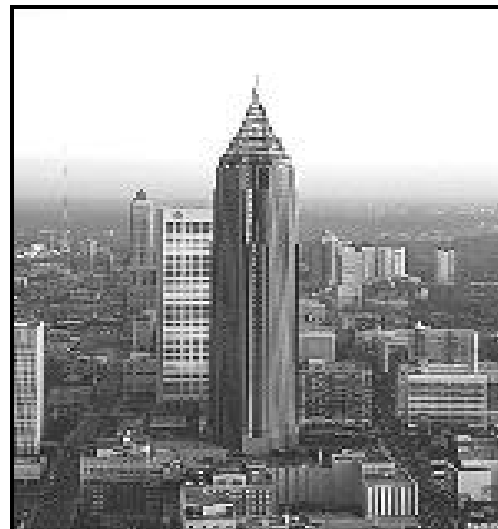
Permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of material found in the **Atlanta HAM** unless otherwise noted providing proper credit is given to the author and The Atlanta Radio Club .



THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is best known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a Saturday event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment.



Bank of America Tower
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:
146.82(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates five repeaters at two locations. Currently our most active project is at the Bank of America Tower where we operate three repeaters at 146.82(-), 224.34 (-), and 444.825(+). On the web, go to <http://www.saf.com/arc/repeater.pdf> for a Acrobat 4.0 diagram of our system.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate two repeaters on 145.35(-) & 444.45 (+) . These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Dennis, KF4MHW. For pictures of that site, see <http://www.saf.com/arc/wfox.html>

The current schedule for net operations include the Sunday Night Net on 146.820 (Linked to 145.35 on FOX) at 8PM EST and the Southeastern VHF Net on Wednesday evenings at 9PM. The 146.820 machine can also be dialed into IRLP and SKYWARN/Peachtree City during inclement weather.

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS



MEETING NOTICE

WHEN:

Thursday Jan 6 , 2005 7:30PM

WHERE:

Red Cross 1955 Monroe Drive –
Atlanta

PROGRAM: Come See Us!

TALK IN:

146.820 (-) PL 146.2

DINNER: The Picadilly Ansley Mall

Located 1/2 mile from Red Cross
On Monroe Drive



The Atlanta Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. BOX 720398
Atlanta, Georgia, 30358

Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC

President
404 892-6789
robin@interlabs.com

Marcel Pitzini, W5BJV

Vice President
404 378-2772
mpitzini@bellsouth.net

Charles Golsen, W4CHG

Treasurer
404-688-6278
cgolsen03@attbi.com

Sandy Slider, N4QXI

Secretary
404 766-3398
sliders2@mindspring.com

John Talipsky Jr, N3ACK

Activities Manager &
Hamfest Chairman
770-995-6446
johnka4vqh@aol.com

Andy Keels, KD4ABB

Repeater Manager
770-394-9052
andyk@hvbi.com

Penn McClatchey, K4PE

Membership
770-942-1207 - ext 425
K4PE@saf.com

John Talipsky Sr, KI4Y

Newsletter
678-985-1316
john@talipsky.com

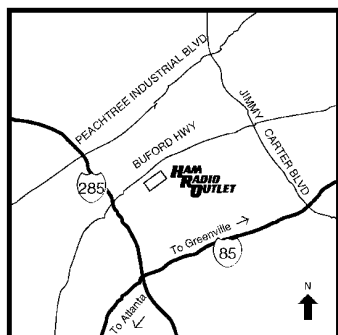


The very best of new technology is here and on sale now

Icom 756PRO II

Kenwood TS-2000

Yaesu FT-1000MPMKV



All the top brands of amateur
radio equipment available!
*We'll see you in June at the
Hamfest!*

800-444-7927 770-263-0700
24 HOUR FAX 770-263-9548

atlanta@hamradio.com

6071 Buford Hwy, Atlanta
GA 30340

Asian Radio Amateurs Bridging Communication Gap following Tsunami

Source: The ARRL Letter

NEWINGTON, CT, Dec 28, 2004--Amateur Radio organizations and individual amateurs in several of the countries affected by the December 26 earthquake and consequent tsunamis in South Asia have begun emergency communication activities. The death toll from the disaster has been estimated at more than 50,000 lives, and health authorities now worry that thousands more may die from disease, due in part to a lack of potable water. Relief organizations and governments around the world have rallied to assist the victims, many of whom are homeless. DXer Charly Harpole, K4VUD/VU3CHE, was visiting the National Institute of Amateur Radio (NIAR) VU4RBI/VU4NRO DXpedition in Port Blair on Andaman Island when the earthquake struck. He said the team suspended DXpedition operation and shifted quickly to emergency mode.

"By that afternoon, the team had set up one rig outside with a mobile whip and tuner, powered by the hotel generator, and Bharathi [Prasad, VU2RBI--the DXpedition team leader] was taking health-and-welfare messages from the people standing around there," Harpole reported to ARRL. He is scheduled to relate his earthquake experience on US national television during an appearance on NBC's Today show Wednesday, December 29.

"Many wanted to tell relatives on the Indian mainland that they were OK," Harpole continued, "and Bharathi established contact with many India ham stations in various cities as needed." He said Bharathi was able to relay a message to his wife via a contact with a station in Thailand that he was all right.

Harpole, who returned to Thailand December 27 as scheduled, speculates the team may resume DXpedition operation since Port Blair escaped the worst damage, and the aftershocks have apparently ceased. Sandeep Baruah, VU2MUE, reports that VU4NRO is active on 20 meters, and two additional hams from the Indian mainland--VU2DVO and VU2JOS--have arrived in Port Blair to assist.

Calcutta VHF Amateur Radio Society Assistant Secretary Horey Majumdar, VU2HFR, relayed information from VU4RBI today that the situation in the Andamans has improved considerably with power and some telephone service being restored, although some aftershocks were occurring from time to time. He also says that VU4RBI and VU4NRO were having a lot of trouble copying signals from the Indian mainland, in part due to RF interference from local sources.

C. K. "Ram" Raman, VU3DJQ, in New Delhi reports that one member of the VU4RBI/VU4NRO DXpedition team, S. Ram Mohan, VU2MYH/VU4MYH, has established a station on Car Nicobar Island, one of the worst hit areas that had been totally cut off. Traffic has been noted on 14.190, 14.195 and 14.200 MHz. Raman has been operating at low power to avoid interfering with a nearby army communication site.

Majumdar says the VU4MYH station marks the very first Amateur Radio operation from Nicobar Island. "Mohan's signals were extremely weak, and he was in the skip zone of the Andaman

stations on 20 meters," he said. "Improvisation was the name of the game. Hams had to switch to good old CW and switch frequencies from 14.190 and 14.160 MHz to 7.090 MHz." He said in the afternoon, signals were best on 15 meters (21.240 MHz) between the Andaman and Nicobar Islands stations.

"The Amateur Radio station from Nicobar is perhaps playing the most vital part in what is turning out to be the world's largest disaster operation," Majumdar said. "Hams from Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and even Israel are checking into the VU emergency nets and extending their fullest cooperation in the truest spirit of Amateur Radio."

Elsewhere, he reports, upward of three dozen stations on the Indian mainland are participating in an emergency net on 7.050 MHz. He said hams from South India have established stations in Tamil Nadu, the hardest hit area on the mainland where thousands died in fishing villages. Hams were handling both health-and-welfare and emergency and medical communications, he told ARRL.

Fragmented information continues to arrive from other areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami. At this point, there have been no specific requests for communication assistance from outside the region.

Musa Suraatmadja, YB0MOS, the secretary-general of the Indonesia Amateur Radio Organization (ORARI) responded gratefully to an International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) request to assist. "So far we can still manage," he said. "Our ORARI members are amongst the first to go to the stricken areas doing emergency communication, rescue operations and other things." The 9.0 magnitude earthquake occurred off the Indonesian island of Sumatra.

Tony Waltham, HS0ZDX, vice president of the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand (RAST) called the earthquake and tsunamis "truly a disaster of catastrophic proportions which has never before been experienced by Thailand--or by our neighbouring countries that share an Indian Ocean or Andaman Sea coastline." He said communication needs in Thailand are being met.

"The situation is now under control, with Thai hams helping to relay information between the affected areas along the west coast in the south to government agencies--mostly on VHF and 40 meters as well as by disseminating news and information over VHF frequencies in Bangkok." He said EchoLink also has been playing a role in enabling hams in Thailand to relay information to friends and rela-

(Continued on page 7)

METRO TESTING SESSIONS

Call ahead to verify session and be prepared with the appropriate forms and required papers. A small fee may be charged. Check with the VEC

Athens, GA

1st Monday of each EVEN-numbered month at 7:00 pm 2095 W. Broad Street.
Contact: EDWIN FUQUA, N4VA
(706) 354-1727 E: edwin.fuqua@charter.net

Cartersville, GA

1st Tuesday of each month at the Cartersville Kroger. Contact: JODI POWELL, AG4BK
(770) 387-1591

Gainesville, GA

1st Sunday of EVEN-numbered months Johnson High School, 3305 Poplar Springs Rd
Contact: ALFRED WESTBROOK, KT4VP
(770) 965-4901 Email: kt4vp@arrl.net

Lilburn, GA

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
4th Friday of Every Month at 7:00 pm
St. John Neumann Church 801 Tom Smith Rd
Contact: Howie Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362
Headphones provided for CW tests.

Milledgeville, GA ARRL / VEC

2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at the Mary Vinson Memorial Library, 151 S. Jefferson St across from the Georgia Military Academy. Contact: OTIS MURPHY W4OY
(478) 452-6394 Email: W4OY@arrl.net

Peachtree City, GA

1st Thursday of EVEN-numbered months at 7:00 pm, and the 2nd Saturday of ODD-numbered months at 10:00 am at the Peachtree City Library, downstairs meeting room. Contact: JAN DUBROCA, KN4JD (770) 502-0760

Snellville, GA

2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Road.
Contact: WAYNE TAYLOR, WD3CCA
(770) 498-7759

Stone Mountain, GA ARRL / VEC

Alford Memorial Radio Club
2nd Saturday of ODD-numbered months at 8:30 am Stone Mountain United Methodist Church, 5312 W. Mountain St.
Contact: BOB VARONE, W4ETN
(770) 978 3179 Email: bvarone@juno.com

Atlanta, GA

4th Sunday of each month, 2:30pm Georgia Tech
Visit <http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/w4aql/test.html> for more information and to sign up for a mailing list.

No pre-registration is required.

Email: w4aql-ve@cyberbuz.gatech.edu (emails preferred over phone calls) Phone: 404-894-2936

UPCOMING CONTESTS AND OP ACTIVITIES

ARRL RTTY Roundup 1800Z, Jan 8 to 2400Z, Jan 9
North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 8 to 0600Z, Jan 9
North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 15 to 0600Z, Jan 16
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes 1900Z, Jan 22 to 0400Z, Jan 24
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 0000Z, Jan 29 to 2359Z, Jan 30
secc.contesting.com www.sedxc.org

Green Bay, WI: Bay Area Relay League, W4P. 1200Z Jan 21-2400Z Jan 23. Packers Ice Bowl Remembered. 14.260 14.070 7.280. Certificate. George Russell, WN8VIX, 2530 Sun Terr, Green Bay, WI 54311.

Punxsutawney, PA: Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ. 1400Z-2100Z Jan 29. Commemorating Groundhog Day 2005. 14.240 7.240 7.125 146.715. Certificate. Sherman Hollopeter, W3QOS, Box 20, 216 E Main St, Big Run, PA 15715.

UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR

5-6 Feb 2005 Southern Florida Section Convention
Dade Radio Club of Miami
<http://www.hamboree.org>

26 Feb 2005 Dalton ARC
<http://www.qsl.net/w4drc/>
Talk-In: 145.230(-)

5-6 Mar 2005 DixieFest
Memphis, TN
<http://www.dixiefest.org>

12-13 Mar 2005 North Carolina State Convention
Mecklenburg ARS
<http://www.w4bfb.org/hamfest>

29-30 Apr 2005 * 2005
Southeastern VHF Conf
Southeastern VHF Society
http://www.svhfs.org/conf_2005.htm
Charlotte, NC
Hilton Charlotte Executive Park
5624 Westpark Drive

The Signman of Baton Rouge



**ORDER THE
W4DOC
BADGE!**

Go online or
call for pricing

79Castle Kirk Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808 USA
(225) 757-1545 Phone (225) 766-9387 Fax
Toll-Free 888-HAM-TAG1 (888-426-8241)
[Http://thesignman.com](http://thesignman.com)

Peter One...

(Continued from page 1)

team members are funding 74% of the total cost and need your help with the remaining expenses. Your contribution will be very much appreciated. Send contributions to either: K4UEE, F2JD, JA1ELY or ZL2AL (check the website for an easy-to-use donation form.



Above: Peter One crew loads a container to be shipped

Left: Peter One Island, DX site can be seen on lower right

Here is the itinerary for the Expedition:

Jan. 12, 2005 Team meets in Punta Arenas, Chile
Jan. 13 Expedition equipment loaded onto the vessel Antarctic Dream
Jan. 14 Depart Punta Arenas goes direct Peter I.
Jan. 19-21 Arrive Peter I, move ashore via helicopter
Jan. 21- Feb. 4 Radio operations, ship stands offshore during entire operation
Feb. 5 Depart Peter I
Feb. 10 Arrive Punta Arenas
() Weather dependent

| BAND | SSB | CW | Digital |
|-------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| 10 | 28475 | 28023 | 28092 |
| 12 | 24987 | 24893 | 24949 |
| 15 | 21295 | 21023 | 21100 |
| 17 | 18165 | 18073 | 18105 |
| 20 | 14190 | 14023 | 14088 (1) |
| 30 | n/a | 10103 | 10148 (1) |
| 40 | 7093 | 7023 | |
| 80 | 3750 | 3523 | |
| 160 | 1842.5 | 1822.5 | |

Note: These frequencies have been selected to allow the Peter I Team to, on occasion, have three signals on a band at one time. We have taken steps to minimize inter-station interference by separation of operating sites and different antenna polarizations. Although these frequencies may vary some and may even be changed all together depending upon what we encounter on the island and on the air, they are a good place to start looking for us. In that regard, remember we will be communicating regularly with the world-wide community through our pilot system. We are well aware of the demand for a QSO with Peter I with the US General Class licensee. It is our intent to spend considerable time operating split, and listening in the General Class bands. Please listen for instructions from the 3YØX operator for listening frequencies.

(1) Please note that we will be offering digital QSOs on several bands but have selected 30m and 20m as "primary" digital bands. This is where you should look for us first.

Help support 3YØX by purchasing great memorabilia at www.peterone.com

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC P.O. Box 720398 Atlanta, GA 30358

New[] Renewal[] Treasurer Use: Date Paid: Amount: Cash[] or Check#

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____

Address _____ City _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Birth _____

Occupation _____ Spouse's Name _____

Family Names (Included in membership) List Here:

Type of Application [] Voting \$22 [] Student \$8 [] Family \$2/person(non-voting)

DUES PAID: ARC \$ _____ + FAMILY \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Make your check payable to Atlanta Radio Club

Asian Radio Amateurs Bridging Communication Gap following Tsunami

(Continued from page 4)

tives of those who had been on vacation in the stricken areas.

Waltham says what is needed most is help for the thousands of injured and homeless, and RAST now is accepting donations for that purpose to pass on to the Thai government. He said the best method to donate is by wire transfer.

Contributions are being accepted at Siam City Bank, Ratchawat Branch No 111, Account type: Saving; Account number: 111-2-22688-4; Account name: RAST (Radio Amateur Society of Thailand under the Royal patronage of His Majesty the King).

He requests that donors send details of their support to RAST via e-mail dx@thai.com "for our records and so that we can acknowledge this and give full credit."

Salvation Army Team Emergency Network (SATERN) National Director Pat McPherson, WW9E, reports Salvation Army personnel continue to offer emergency disaster services aid in southeastern Asia and costal India. "Salvation Army personnel are based in many of the devastated areas and have been on the forefront of offering aid and relief to the people struggling after this unexpected tragedy," he said. "Salvation Army volunteers fed more than 1200 people in the Kanyakumari and Muttom areas in India and many Salvation Army facilities are being used as feeding sites and emergency shelters in affected communities."

Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services teams are also assisting government and other agencies in assessing needs and trying to find ways to meet them. The Salvation Army's International Emergency Disasters Services Office located in London is coordinating the relief operation.

Third Party Traffic Question

Since none of the countries affected by the earthquake and tsunami have third-party traffic agreements with the US, the question has been raised about the legality of such traffic--especially health-and-welfare messages--between those countries and US amateur stations. A staff member in the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau points out that the international Radio Regulations as revised at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) provide that amateur stations may be used for transmitting international communications of behalf of third parties only in case of emergencies or disaster relief.

"An administration may determine the applicability of this provision to amateur stations under its jurisdiction," the FCC staff member told ARRL. Although the FCC has not formally adopted the changes approved at WRC-03, he continued, "the FCC has no objection to US stations passing disaster-related traffic to and from stations in the affected areas if the administrations responsible for the Amateur Service in those countries do not object to their amateur stations receiving messages from our amateur stations on behalf of third parties."

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC
PO BOX 720398
ATLANTA, GA 30358



MEETING NOTICE - THURSDAY JAN 6, 2005

Tech Fest 2005 ...

(Continued from page 1)

seen. It's a chance to hear the truth about radios and antennas, without the flashy spin that a salesperson might put on it. It is an event that encourages the free exchange of ideas and knowledge. Watch the GARS web site for the latest information on this year's Tech Fest. Tech Fest is an inside event, so unless there is some really strange weather, it should take off as scheduled.

If you have a special interest in some mode of amateur radio or electronics and would like to share your equipment and experiences with the community, please send a note to Ray ray.back@earthlink.net to arrange for a table to showcase your demonstration. Space is somewhat limited, so go ahead and reserve a table. This is also a good time for our Elmer's to show up and share some tales of HAM radio history.

We'll do setup around 9:00 and start at 10:00 and serve lunch along with the Great GARS Chili Cook-off around noon. Last year we were a little short on chili, this year we

need additional entries in the Cook-off. We could use a volunteer to coordinate the Cook-off.

We hope to demonstrate fellowship, HF, VHF, UHF, QRP, digital communications, CW, antennas, portable operations, electronic gadgets, Club and Ham Services, our association with the ARRL, great chili and hamburgers.

Be sure to invite your non-ham friends. This should be a great family experience and a time for some of our younger citizens to become interested in the Magic of Amateur Radio.

Norman Schklar, WA4ZXV
Public Information Officer
Gwinnet ARS
11/11/2004

Note: Norm is also a member of The Atlanta Radio Club